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## **CITY OF BRANSON**

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# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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## **Public works ready for snowfalls**

*Crews work 24 hours if necessary to clear streets*

With the winter season upon us and snow frequently in the forecasts, the Branson Public Works Department is geared up and ready to tackle the white stuff to keep streets as clear as possible.

Public Works Director Larry VanGilder says the city has 10 pieces of snow removal equipment including plows and dump trucks that are ready to hit the streets when snow depths reach two inches.

"If some of the hills in the city begin getting slick before the two inches, we'll get the trucks out early," said VanGilder. "Once the snow begins, we immediately monitor street conditions to keep them clear."

VanGilder said crews have been put on 12-hour shifts to man the eight snow routes within the city. The heavily traveled roads are plowed first, and then equipment begins moving along other streets. The priority roads include Epps, Roark Valley, Gretna, Shepherd of the Hills, Green Mountain Drive, Fall Creek and the major streets leading into subdivisions and residential areas. VanGilder said crews stay on these heavily traveled roads as long as it continues snowing. When it stops, crews go to other streets.

Highways 76, 248 and Business 65 south of Main Street are owned by the state and will be cleared by MoDOT highway crews.

VanGilder said melting material like salt and gravel are placed on streets only after the snow stops falling.